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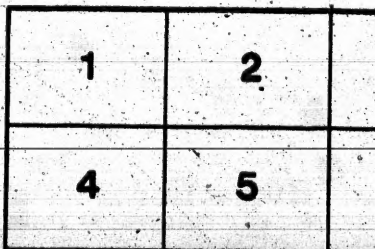
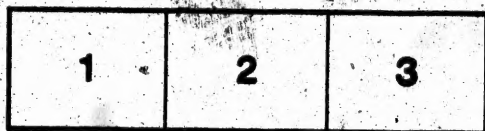
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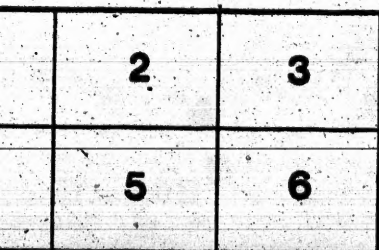
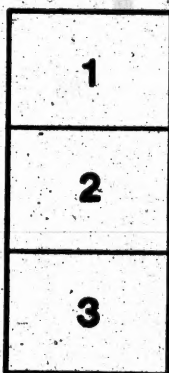
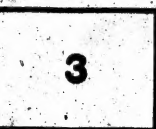
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DR. WATTS

VISION.

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DR. WATTS' VISION.

When the bright monarch of the day
Withdrew from human sight,
And night had spread her sable veil
And put the day to flight.

Then slumber seized my closing eyes,
My weary limbs reposed,
While to my soul with vast surprise
A vision sweetly rose.

Struck pale and low my body lay,
A lifeless lump of clay,
And people solemnly advanced
To bear my corpse away.

As the procession shaped its way,
Lo! from the crystal skies,
Swift shot away an angel forth,
And stood before mine eyes.

Swiftly he bore me by the hand
Through the etherial blue,
Leaving the lesser orbs of light,
And higher planets too.

The earth, the clouds, the moon and stars,
In distant views decay ;
Through liquid realms and starry plains,,
He urged his shining way.

Curious, I asked my lovely guide,
As through the spheres we pass'd.
Concerning all those beautionous scenes
Which by us fled so fast.

Silent he checked my forward tongue,
Nor stood to make reply,
Still rising with angelick speed,
To tread the upper sky.

Now all before my eyes
A blooming garden rose,
There ancient Eden's flowery walks
Their endless green disclose.

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Up a tall hill my footsteps rise,
Which in the linte swells ;
In every glade beneath the skies
The flowers adorn the dells.

The waving trees with pressing buds,
Crowd into living groves,
Thro' whose fair boughs with cheerful songs
The feathered nation roves.

Upwards still I turned my sight,
I saw with vast surprise,
The shining sphere Jerusalem
And blazing temple rise.

Ten thousand beauties charmed my breast,
While still my eyes behold
The glittering walls and fiery gates,
And lofty towers of gold.

The shining seraph led my way
Through the etherial blue ;
Now near the illustrious door appear'd
Still glittering in my view,

And mounting up from sphere to sphere
With my angelick guide,
At length me thought at distance I
A monstrous shape espied,

Stalking across the specious plain,
Which lay at my right hand,
To which I came, while at the last,
My lofty guide did stand.

Sure 'tis the black infernal prince,
Thought I, to whom I said
Proudest of rebels who did once
Heaven's mighty realms invade.

Thou monarch of malicious fiends,
And of the pit below,
What does thou on these heavenly plains,
And whither doest thou go.

The proud apostate strait replied,
For sin surprizing red,
Before the awful bar of God,
You'll presently be had.

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Where from the glorious mouth
Thy sentence will proceed,
Whose peircing sound will make thy heart,
Though hard as steel to bleed.

Then thou'lt be bound both hand and foot,
With adamant chains,
And then I'll drag thee down to hell
To bear eternal pains.

This is the reason why I left
The hoild shades of night,
And to these fair celestial plains
Did take my lofty flight.

plains,

He also said one Sabbath day,
Before the sun resigned
The spacious sky to sable night,
To gratify your mind,

You walked abroad to such a house,
With one that I did send,
To tempt you to profane that day,
Which you did not intend.

That you I tempted oft, you find,
Against the mighty God ;
Your bold rebellion now demands
His sin revenging rod.

While dreaming thus my restless mind,
Was sorely pressed with these ;
My conscience smote me, and my guilt
Did on my spirit seize.

Then to that hateful prince of hell,
With trembling I replied,
'Tis true I have provoked my God,
But Jesus Christ has died,

To save the humble simple soul,
From hell's incessant pains ;
And he will keep my soul always
From your infernal chains.

Then did the apostate stalk away
Some distance from my side,
And towards the famous city, he,
With monstrous feet did glide.

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And then the angel led me on,
With looks surprising sweet,
Treading the pure celestial plain,
With his immortal feet.

Then o'er the blest immortal field,
With swiftness he did pass,
And reached the glorious city wall,
Which seemed like crystal glass.

Their stately gates of precious pearls,
Adorn that beautiful side,
To which transported I was led
By my celestial guide.

Then two of those resplendent pearls,
Which turned on rubies bright,
Opened inviting my approach,
O'erwhelmed with vast delight,

And then the angel led me on,
With his most tender hand,
And led me to an awful bar,
Near which the Judge did stand.

Before a lofty shining throne
Of bright celestial gold,
On adamantine pillars raised,
Most glorious to behold.

On this the blessed Jesus sat,
The Father's chief delight,
Clothed with a long unspotted robe,
Like snow unsullied white.

I also saw ten thousand saints
Around the burning throne,
And tuneful angels sounding loud
The victories he had won.

The saints in spotless garments clad,
Did sing with joy supreme ;
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Was their eternal theme.

The sacred anthems from their tongues,
Flowed to their Saviour's praise,
While I stood mute before the throne,
Borne down with vast amaze.

Such dismal terrour seized my soul,
Such guilt spread o'er my face,
That then I could not bear to see
The glory of that place.

Then did the holy righteous Judge
The cause of me inquire,
Why I stood trembling at the bar,
And what I did desire.

Then I replied, to hear my doom
Pronounced I now appear;
Thou Jesus with a gracious smile
My fainting soul did cheer.

And taking up a ponderous book,
Written by the eternal pen,
Whose spacious pages did contain
The fates of mortal men.

He did unfold the numerous leaves
With his immortal hand,
Before the bless'd melodious crowd
Which round the throne did stand.

There I observed whole pages wrote
With never fading red,
While over others I beheld,
Black characters were spread.

Then said the Judge, the scarlet lines
Contain the names of those,
For which I shed my dearest blood,
And whom my father chose.

Before he made the darksome night
Or ever day did dawn,
And for that reason here they stand,
In rosy scarlet drawn,

And in this list of bless'd souls,
I also set thy name,
Before this hand spread out the sky,
Or formed earth's morning frame,

And then he added with a smile,
Which made my heart rejoice ;
Could ought in thee commend thyself
As worthy of my choice.

When I did pass by other souls,
And set my love on thee :
To which transported I replied,
'Twas nothing Lord in me.

My soul was filled with boundless joy.
For then I called to mind,
How that I every day had read
Concerning human kind.

That the delight of Jesus was
To the sons of men,
Who by him exalted high,
The world began.

Then ceased the glorious to speak,
Who never spake amiss,
At which my convoy turned to go,
Among the saints in bliss.

And I, me thought, wrapped up in joy,
Did also turn aside,
And join the blest harmonious throng,
With my celestial guide.

And then the ever blessed Judge,
The Lamb that once was slain,
Said yet you must not enter there,
But must return again,

And live on earth from whence you came,
And fight the glorious fight,
Against the Devil, world and sin,
And put them all to flight,

For I will grant the grace of faith,
That great immortal shield,
And other proved celestial arms,
To aid you in the field.

Then turning from the sapphire throne
I saw the prince of hell:
Go home, I said, thou hateful fiend,
Thou dragon fierce and fell.

The vile deceit and cursed spite,
Was shown when for a while,
Thou didst in Eden's sacred grove,
Our mother Eve beguile.

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Then with a hidious voice he said,
Your hope of grace is vain,
For I will surely win your soul,
By tempting you again,

me, Then I replied, I fear you not,
The prince of life hath said,
That his Almighty sovereign grace
Shall surely be my aid.

At which with envy, spite and rage,
The beast was swelled,
And wide extended jaws
The monster yelled.

And widely o'er the plain,
To the other side
He runs with his guide.

Where with impetuous fury he
Tore up the trembling ground,
And with his dismal cloven paws
Did throw the clods around.

Then with a mild seraphick mein,
The angel did retreat,
Leading me from the awful bar,
And from the Judge's seat.

Descending with me through the sky,
The way we came before,
He brought me safely to the earth,
And set me at the door,

Where we engaged in sweet converse,
About the great unknown,
And of the glories of the new
That stare around the sun.

And in the midst of our discourse,
I suddenly awoke,
So to my grief the dream was o'er,
And the sweet vision broke.

THE END

